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» ottawa p.2

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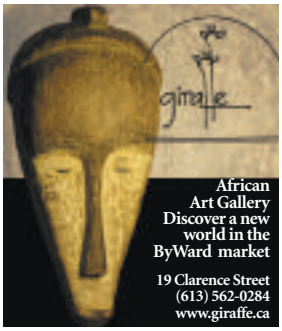
Wednesday, May 14, 2008 metronews.ca Ottawa



PAUL DARROW/REUTERS

A handful

Team Canada captain Shane Doan holds his crying 16-month-old son Carson as his wife Andrea tries to take a photo during a family day event yesterday at the IIHF World Championships in Halifax. Canada plays Norway today in the quarter-finals.

rebel with a cause

Cynthia Nixon planning to marry partner as a rebellion

» celeb buzz p.18

death toll rises

China reeling from worst quake in decades

» world p.5

Festival sings a new tune

Officials apologize to band booted for Falun Gong ties

By **TIM WIECLAWSKI**
Metro Ottawa

A marching band the Canadian Tulip Festival banned from performing at its opening ceremonies because members are Falun Gong practitioners has accepted an apology from organizers.

"We're glad to see they have come forward with an apology," said Tian Guo Marching Band representative Lucy Zhou. "We have no grudge towards them and we're looking forward to performing on Sunday."

In its official apology released yesterday, organizers conceded the issue had been mishandled. "Comments made on behalf of the festival by others had resulted in a misperception of the festival's position and an understandable feeling of grievance by band members," the statement read.

The furor began when the band, which had been booked by the festival to play O Canada and Maple Leaf Forever at the opening ceremonies, was told by organizers it could not go on because members belonged to Falun Gong.

The band had arrived in uniforms decorated with Falun Gong symbols and banners at an event that included Chinese embassy officials. But band members insisted they were not there to embarrass the officials and demanded an apology and a chance to perform at the festival, claiming they were the victims of discrimination. They accused the festival of caving to pressure from Chinese embassy officials who had been present at the ceremonies.

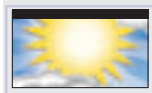
Following the incident, festival marketing director Doug Little defended the decision to pull the plug on the performance, charging the band had misrepresented itself in its festival application.

But after meeting over the weekend, the festival yesterday issued a media release reinstating the band into the program, with apologies from Little, festival chairman David Luxton and president Teri Kirk.

"We certainly support the right of religious groups to bring forward diverse views. Unfortunately, the festival's decision was made in haste in the moments before the official opening," said Kirk. "We are pleased to have had the opportunity to meet with band members and to re-extend a warm invitation to the band to perform at this year's festival."

The band will perform this Sunday at 1 p.m. at Dow's Lake.

–tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca



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WEATHER P. 19

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ottawa

City emergency workers — who are restricted to platelet donations due to their jobs' high-risk exposure to communicable disease and infections — have launched a program asking citizens to donate blood on their behalf at clinics to be held in Ottawa until May 30. SOURCE: "SIRENS FOR LIFE" BLOOD CAMPAIGN

Dell loss is tech sector's gain

City companies look to score laid-off workers

By **TIM WIECLAWSKI**
Metro Ottawa

limited opportunities

» Even if every city call centre were to hire a handful of the newly unemployed workers, it would be difficult to place everyone in the same sector.

Sandra Freeman, Chair of the Ottawa Regional Contact Centre Association said 89 per cent of contact centres in Canada have fewer than 50 employees.

While they say it is unfortunate that 1,800 people lost their jobs, local contact centres are viewing the recent Dell and Sitel layoffs as a chance to add some top local talent to their rosters.

Gary Hannah, chair of the Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation (OCRI), said it is important for Ottawa companies to hire those newly unemployed workers quickly before they move to other cities and their expertise is lost locally.

"If (workers) see the business community rallying to do something before they get bummed out, that's going to be a big boost," said Hannah, who is also president and CEO of Pronexus. "We're a small company … and I couldn't afford to train them like they are (trained) coming out of those organizations."

To help companies find Dell's newly displaced employees, the Ottawa Regional Contact Centre Association organized a technology job fair yesterday Scotiabank Place.

"I don't think we've ever experienced the magnitude of the people who are actually out of work at one time in our industry," said ORCCA chair Sandra Freeman. "A lot of effort and time was spent training agent and team leaders and our industry doesn't want to lose all those skilled worker to other industries."

Amal Hassan worked her last shift at the Dell call centre at the end of April. At the career fair yesterday, she said recruiters were enthusiastic about her training and skills, and it gave her hope she'd find another job quickly.

Having such a large pool of displaced, skilled workers from which to draw has caused some companies to re-examine their business model.

Heather Graham, vice-president of Circumference Technology, which specializes in call centre technologies, said they're considering expanding to take advantage of the one-time rash of top expertise that's flooding the city market.

"We sort of started thinking … that we might want to look more into technical support, since there is a surplus of employees around," she said. "We might as well pick them up and offer more service in that area."

She said Circumference is looking to add around five employees to their 20-person contact centre staff.

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TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

Former Dell employee Amal Hassan fills out an application at the Ontario Regional Contact Centre Association career fair held at Scotiabank Place yesterday.

One hurt in possible stabbing

By **TIM WIECLAWSKI**
Metro Ottawa

A man suffered a puncture wound near his kidney in a fight outside of a city pub early yesterday, but the incident may not be the city's second stabbing this week.

Although the man was seriously injured with a wound to his lower back, Ottawa Police yesterday could not yet say if the man was stabbed with a knife, or if the wound was caused by the victim falling on glass that was shattered as a result of the altercation.

"Police did attend a scene in the area where there was an altercation, but it hasn't been determined if the injuries were from a knife," Const. J.P. Vincelette said.

status

» Police have not yet made any arrests or laid charges.

Paramedics characterized the wound as a stabbing in a release. Spokesman J.P. Trottier said police might have a stricter definition of what constitutes a stabbing, but added that paramedics would not have released the information if it were self-inflicted, or accidental.

The altercation happened around 3 a.m. near Montreal Road and Bathgate Drive, near the Newfoundland Pub. Paramedics quickly stabilized the victim, age 18, before taking him to hospital where he remained yesterday in serious but stable condition.

The incident could be the third violent stabbing in the region this week.

On Monday, a 16-year-old boy died after being stabbed at T.R. Leger School in Cornwall. A boy, 17, faces first-degree murder charges in connection with the incident.

Also, a 57-year-old man was stabbed 10 times in the head and torso on Sunday, on Daly Avenue in Sandy Hill. The 17-year-old male suspect is believed to have been known to the victim, though no arrests had been reported as of yesterday.

Man grabs child on bike

Police are investigating after a man grabbed an 11-year old cyclist on a pathway near Orleans Boulevard and St. Pierre Street and tried to pull him off his bike.

The child escaped by kicking the suspect and riding off, but the suspect began to run after him. The suspect stopped pursuing the boy when another person approached on the pathway, which runs through a wooded area.

The suspect is described as a white male, 45 to 55 years old, six feet tall, with a heavy build, short grey hair, unshaven, stained teeth, and wearing a white sleeveless undershirt and ripped jeans.

Ottawa Police's Sexual Assault/Child Abuse Unit is investigating the incident that happened at 8:45 a.m. on May 12, but which was reported yesterday. Anyone with information can call 613-236-1222, ext. 5944.

METRO OTTAWA

»news In Brief

» **GALLERY** Say cheese if you want to keep the portrait gallery here. Ottawa MP Paul Dewar is calling on residents to show their support by attending a rally on Friday at noon on Wellington Street, across from Parliament Hill, where city photographer Paul Couvrette will take a mass portrait of demonstrators who want to keep the gallery here. Friday is the deadline for cities to submit proposals to the federal government to locate the gallery in their community and submissions are expected from Ottawa, Calgary and Edmonton. Dewar hopes a large rally at noon hour will convince the federal government that the portrait gallery should remain in the capital.

METRO OTTAWA

Lawyers demand raise from cash they save gov't

By **TIM WIECLAWSKI**
Metro Ottawa

Claiming their work defending government has saved taxpayers untold millions in potential liabilities, federal lawyers rallied in Ottawa yesterday to demand that some of those savings be directed towards their paycheques.

Across from the Supreme Court of Canada, Association of Justice Counsel president Patrick Jette said the more than 100 protesting lawyers were not satisfied with an offer of a 1.5 per cent salary increase, considering they've not had a cost of living adjustment since 2005.

"Since 1999 our salaries have dropped … and now we are making less than most for the provinces, when usually we are the second-best paid after Ontario," he said.

Federal lawyers say frozen wages are endangering the Canadian justice system and they are demanding increased wages and an independent board when their collective bargaining process goes to arbitration.

"We are losing experienced lawyers," said AJC executive Riry Shen. "It's hard for us to compete to bring in the best and the brightest and that's what Canadians expect and deserve."

Jette said federal lawyers prosecute street gang members, war criminals, handle immigration cases, and save the country millions in lawsuits.

"They may not see the benefit of the work we do, but we are doing a lot of work for the Canadian public and the government is not showing the respect that should be given to the lawyers that do that job every day."

-tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

negotiations

» The Treasury Board has 26 collective bargaining agreements at various stages of negotiations.

Treasury Board spokesman Bob Makichuk said the government is committed to reaching an agreement but has to balance the interests of their employees and those of all taxpayers.

‘Fresh meat’ gets grilled at derby

CITYSCAPES
TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

All my life, I’ve been told that nice girls don’t push and shove. And they definitely don’t wear fishnet stockings and skirts short enough to be mistaken for headbands.

Well, maybe they don’t. But the girls that do sure have a lot of fun.

The last time I went rollerskating, I’d paired my quads with a head-to-toe fluorescent outfit made from some kind of parachute material. Yes, dear readers, it was a really long time ago.

When I heard that roller derby was in Ottawa, I was excited to try it out. I love in-line skating, so quads can’t be that different, right?

Wrong.

I strapped on my skates at the recent Ottawa Roller Derby Fresh Meat night (you know it’s going to be fun when organizers refer to new recruits as such) and had barely risen to a standing position when I fell, hard, on my butt.

I’d leaned on my heel to apply the brakes before realizing that, on quads, the stoppers are on the front. Tears sprang to my eyes, but I held back. Roller girls are tough. Roller girls don’t cry. Though, later on, a big purple bruise the size of a baseball would bloom on my behind.

“She fell right on her skate,” Ottawa Roller Derby member Leila Younis announced after witnessing my spill. “Ouch!”

She doesn’t make a big deal of it, so neither do I. After all, roller derby’s not a sport for the weak hearted.

A full-contact, competitive sport, games involve two teams of five skaters who try to pass opposing members on an oval track to score points. Sometimes, players fall so hard that the spectators flinch.

With 14 teams in Ontario, roller derby is rapidly growing, but it started out for men only in 1932, said Ottawa Roller Derby founder Kelly McAlear, who “grew up at roller rinks.”

> « *It’s physically demanding and competitive. We’re not just standing around looking pretty.* »
>
> *Roller derby member Leila Younis*

McAlear is quick to play down the sport’s sometimes-violent reputation.

“TV has made it out to be more violent than it is,” she said. “Fighting is definitely not encouraged.”

It’s not the only myth members want to dispel.

“We have girls coming out thinking of it as a kind of fashion statement,” said Younis. “Some girls see it as a way to expand their wardrobe. But it’s physically demanding and competitive. We’re not just standing around looking pretty.”

But it doesn’t hurt either, said Katie Bonnar, 26, who admits to liking the roller derby’s showmanship aspect.

“When else do you get to wear fishnets and six-inch skirts in public?” she asked.

When it comes time to skate, Younis tells me to “just go for it. Don’t worry about falling.”

That said, one of the first things McAlear teaches newbies is how to fall properly in a series of what she calls “suicide drills” – throwing yourself down on the ground with both knees.

An unstable pack, we skate around the track, jumping over obstacles. Girls try this one with surprising courage. Some wipe out. Hard. Twice, I jump over roller-road kill. Graduating to more advanced moves, we practise whipping teammates forward by their arms and bumping opponents off the track.

By the end of the practice, I’m a regular whiz on skates.

Just don’t make me balance fries or milkshakes.

Metro Ottawa’s Tracey Tong is an award-winning reporter. A Burlington native, Tong’s career has taken her all over Ontario. Her Cityscapes column appears every Wednesday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES FILE PHOTO

Fishnet stockings and quad-style skates are all part of roller derby fashion, as Metro reporter Tracey Tong recently learned.

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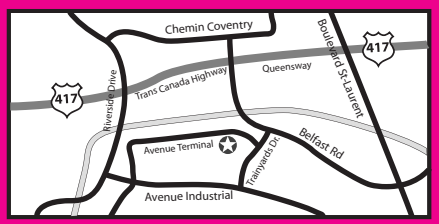

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canada

Canada's last surviving WWI veteran, who lost his citizenship when he moved to the U.S. nearly 90 years ago, has become a Canadian again. John Babcock, 107, left, took the oath of citizenship in his Washington home yesterday. SOURCE: CBC.CA

Sweet tooth linked to DNA

Gene variant may be behind sugar cravings: Study

If you have a sweet tooth, it won't be found amongst your molars or canines. It's inserted in your DNA instead.

Cake and cola and cookie lovers may well be able to blame their cravings on a common variant of a gene that controls the brain's ability to sense sugars in the body, a new University of Toronto study suggests. About one in five people has the variant.

The gene may also have implications for a person's risk of getting diabetes.

"In humans this gene functions as a glucose sensor in the brain to regulate appetite or food intake," says U of T nutrition expert Ahmed El-Sohemy, the study's principal author.

gene vs. variant

» El-Sohemy says the normal gene probably allows the brain to sense when the body has had enough sugar and suppresses appetite. Brains regulated by the variant would have a diminished ability to recognize when sugar levels were elevated and would not shut down consumption.

"It's involved in the brain's ability to detect sugar, and when (you) have had enough," says El-Sohemy, Canada research chair in nutrigenomics at the school.

People with the variant of the gene GLUT 2 consistently ate more sweets and drank more high-calorie drinks that those with the more common form of it, the study published today in the journal Physiological Genomics found..

The GLUT 2 gene, which also helps regulate insulin release from the pancreas, has long been known to be involved in breaking down sugars in the body.

The study, which involved about 850 subjects, began as a look at the gene's pancreatic function and whether it determined how efficiently the body clears sugar from the bloodstream. Researchers discovered the gene's neurological role helps determine who will become a chocoholic.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cranbrook

Helicopter crash in B.C. kills four

AIRCRAFT A pedestrian was among four people killed when a helicopter crashed into a residential neighbourhood in Cranbrook, B.C., yesterday. The helicopter with three people on board appeared to hover as if looking for a landing spot before it crashed onto a street and burst into flames, according to officials and witnesses.

Witnesses told local media the pedestrian appeared to have been dragged by the helicopter as it crashed to the ground, and bypassers attempted to pull the person from the flames but failed.

REUTERS

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Cancer awareness **Striking a pose**

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Kas Pavanantharajh, 19, left, Ashley Kroening, 25, centre, and Dennis Ryan, 26, strike a pose to raise awareness about cancers below the waist. The B.C. Cancer Foundation's Underwear Affair race is scheduled for July 12 and helps fund research into colorectal, bladder, prostate and ovarian cancers.

Dallaire attacks Canada, U.S.

Countries called as good as terrorists

Liberal Senator Roméo Dallaire says the U.S. and Canada have descended to the level of the terrorists they pursue by flouting international law and allowing Omar Khadr to be prosecuted for war crimes at Guantanamo Bay.

"They are operating on a law of their own," Dallaire told the House of Commons foreign affairs human rights committee yesterday. "The (Guantanamo trial) is flawed, it is illegal, and we're letting it happen."

His comments sparked a terse exchange with Conservative MP Jason Kenney, who asked how Dallaire could compare Canada's support for Guantanamo to terrorists who kidnap and kill civilians.

"Is it your testimony that Al Qaeda strapping up a 14-year-old girl with Down Syndrome and sending her into a pet market to be remotely detonated is the moral equivalent to Canada's not making extraordinary political efforts for a transfer of Omar Khadr to this country?" he asked. "Is that your position?"

"You're either with the law or you're not with the law," Dallaire shot back. "You are not allowed to go against (international) conventions and if you do, you're going down the same road as those who absolutely don't believe (in the law)."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Iraq attack

» Kenney's comments about Al Qaeda apparently refer to a February attack in Baghdad that military officials said was carried out by unwitting young bombers. But the story was later retracted when it emerged the two female bombers were actually in their late 20s or 30s and did not have Down Syndrome.

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Liberals slam Harper's lawsuit

$2.5M case sparked by allegations

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's lawsuit against the federal Liberal party is a deliberate attempt to keep opposition MPs from exploring "alleged improprieties" within the government, Liberals say in their legal defence.

"Prime Minister Harper's claim constitutes a fundamental attack on freedom of political expression," the Liberal party says in its statement of defence against Harper's $2.5 million lawsuit, prompted by allegations that federal Tories used financial incentives to woo an MP's support.

At the centre of the lawsuit are allegations in a recent book that two Conservative officials offered MP Chuck Cadman, who had terminal cancer, a million-dollar life insurance policy if he agreed to return to the Conservative party before a May 2005 non-confidence motion that could have toppled Paul Martin's minority Liberals and forced an election.

The Conservatives have maintained that while two senior party officials did visit Cadman, they only offered to assist him in rejoining the party.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

world

A New York man who says he was denied a seat on a five-hour JetBlue flight and was instead told to "hang out" in the plane's bathroom has sued the airline for $2 million, saying he suffered "extreme humiliation."

REUTERS

EU ramps up pressure on Myanmar

Heavy rains pelted homeless cyclone survivors in Myanmar's Irrawaddy delta yesterday, complicating the already slow delivery of aid to more than 1.5 million people facing hunger and disease.

shelters
» Canada will send emergency shelter kits to aid survivors of Myanmar's cyclone

As more foreign aid trickled in, the European Union called on the military junta to allow entry to aid workers to help victims avert "an even greater tragedy,"

The UN says more than 1.5 million people are struggling to survive and up to 100,000 are dead.

REUTERS

Death toll rising

Chinese officials fear the worst as 60,000 missing

The death toll in China's earthquake climbed past 13,000 yesterday and looked set to rise much higher after media said some 19,000 people were buried in rubble in just one area.

Rain and severed roads hampered rescuers in the mountainous area near the epicentre of Monday's 7.9-magnitude quake in the southwestern province of Sichuan, China's worst earthquake in three decades.

State media reported devastation as troops reached stricken villages near the epicentre in Wenchuan, a remote county cut off by landslides about 100 km northwest of the provincial capital, Chengdu.

Officials have said more powerful aftershocks could hit the region and mudslides may add to the toll where 60,000 people were unaccounted for. More than 50,000 troops joined disaster relief efforts..

REUTERS

JASON LEE/REUTERS

A Chinese rescue worker walks past destroyed houses and cars yesterday as a top disaster official said storms were hampering rescue efforts in the most devastated areas.

60 killed in India bombings

Sixty people were killed in a series of bomb attacks in India's western city of Jaipur yesterday evening, police, officials and witnesses said.

blame
» India has previously blamed Pakistan-based Islamist militants for similar bombings

At least six bombs, which exploded in markets and near a Hindu temple in Jaipur's crowded, walled city just as many people took to the streets after a sweltering day, also wounded up to 150 people, officials said.

State government officials said between 50 and 60 people were killed in the explosions, the deadliest bomb attacks in India in nearly two years.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attacks.

REUTERS

»news In Brief

» **CLINTON** Hillary Clinton scored a victory over front-runner Barack Obama in West Virginia yesterday, but with only 28 delegates at stake, it does little to stop his march to the Democratic presidential nomination.

» **PEACE** Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said yesterday that he and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas had reached "understandings and points of agreement" on some key issues in U.S.-backed peace talks.

» **OLMERT** Israeli police said they raided the offices of a government ministry yesterday, confiscating documents as part of a bribery investigation that has put Prime Minister Ehud Olmert under pressure to resign.

REUTERS

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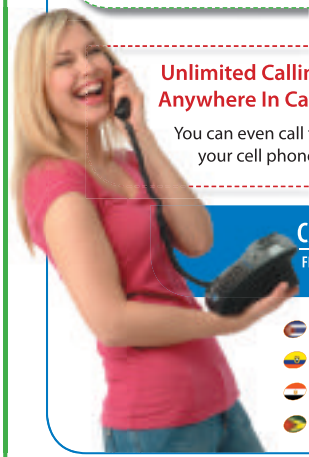

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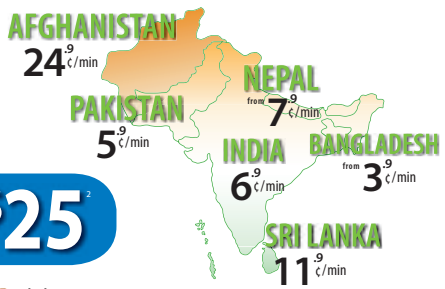

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business

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More than one-third of workers globally would choose their cellphone over their wallet, keys, laptop or digital music player if they had to leave the house for 24 hours and could take only one item, says a new survey. REUTERS

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Rona's profit falls 90%

Quarter reflects drop in economic confidence: CEO

Alberta effect

» A temporary slowdown in demand for building materials in fast-growing Alberta also hurt Rona's performance, the company said.

Rona Inc., the country's biggest Canadian-owned home improvement retailer, said severe winter storms, especially in Ontario and Quebec, contributed to a nearly 90 per cent decline in profits in the previous three-month period as construction and renovation activity stalled.

"The results for first quarter 2008 reflect the strong drop in consumer confidence in the country's economic growth," said Rona's president and chief executive officer Robert Dutton.

The company said it earned $1 million, or 1 cent a share, in the three months ended March 30. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

»news In Brief

» **CRUDE** Oil surged to a record peak near $127 US yesterday before settling at $125.80 US after OPEC producer Iran said it was studying a plan to cut output despite signs record-high prices are hurting consumer nations.

» **RICE** The current spike in world rice prices could be devastating, even if it only lasts for a few months, and will leave African nations vulnerable to unrest, a top expert said yesterday. REUTERS

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Metro is the world's largest international newspaper, with more than 18.5 million daily readers in 100 major cities in 21 countries.
Please recycle

TSX mulling office in China

Canada's biggest stock market operator, TSX Group Inc., said yesterday it was considering opening an office in China, its fastest growing source of new listings.

It would join a small group of global exchanges that have come to China, seeking to attract lucrative Chinese share offerings. The London Stock Exchange opened a Beijing office in January, following U.S. rivals the New York Stock Exchange, a unit of NYSE Euronext, and the Nasdaq Stock Market Inc.

The office would be its first outside of Canada. REUTERS

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There are things that only the world's largest international newspaper can do!

sports

Former Detroit Red Wings star Steve Yzerman, left, boxer Lennox Lewis and speedskater Marc Gagnon are among this year's class of inductees, announced yesterday, for Canada's Sports Hall of Fame. METRO OTTAWA

Pens close in on final

Pittsburgh uses defence to take commanding lead

PENGUINS 4 FLYERS 1

Marian Hossa scored twice, including the game-winner, as the Pittsburgh Penguins topped the Flyers 4-1 in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals last night in Philadelphia.

Ryan Whitney and Ryan Malone also lit the lamp for the Penguins, who improved to 11-1 in the postseason and are one win away from reaching the Stanley Cup Final for the first time since 1992.

Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 17 of 18 shots to record the win.

R.J. Umberger tallied for the Flyers, who are facing an 0-3 series deficit for the first time since falling to the Detroit Red Wings in a four-game Cup Final sweep in 1997.

Martin Biron surrendered three goals on 24 shots.

Game 4 is slated for tomorrow in Philadelphia. METRO NEWS SERVICES

JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES

Flyers centre Mike Richards is checked hard by Pittsburgh Penguins star Sidney Crosby last night during Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals in Philadelphia.

SCOREBOARD

NHL

CONFERENCE FINALS
EASTERN CONFERENCE
PHILADELPHIA VS. PITTSBURGH
Game 3 — Last night
Pittsburgh 4 Philadelphia 1
Game 4 — Tomorrow
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7:30
(Pittsburgh leads series 3-0)
WESTERN CONFERENCE
DALLAS VS. DETROIT
Game 4 — Tomorrow
Detroit at Dallas, 8
*Game 5 — Saturday
Dallas at Detroit, 1:30
(Detroit leads series 3-0)
(* – if necessary)

NBA

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
EASTERN CONFERENCE
BOSTON VS. CLEVELAND
Game 5 — Tonight
Cleveland at Boston, 8
Game 6 — Friday
Boston at Cleveland, 8
(Series tied 2-2)
DETROIT VS. ORLANDO
Game 5 — Last night
Detroit 91 Orlando 86
(Detroit wins series 4-1)
WESTERN CONFERENCE
L.A. LAKERS VS. UTAH
Game 5 — Tonight
Utah at L.A. Lakers, 10:30
Game 6 — Friday
L.A. Lakers at Utah, 10:30
(Series tied 2-2)
NEW ORLEANS VS. SAN ANTONIO
Game 5 — Last night
San Antonio at New Orleans
Game 6 — Tomorrow
New Orleans at San Antonio, TBA
(Series tied 2-2)
(* – if necessary)

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Cleveland 4 Oakland 0
Baltimore 5 Boston 4
Tampa Bay 2 N.Y. Yankees 1 (11 ings)
Toronto 5 Minnesota 3
Texas 5 Seattle 2
Kansas City 3 Detroit 2
Chicago Sox at L.A. Angels
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Philadelphia 5 Atlanta 4
N.Y. Mets 6 Washington 3
Cincinnati 5 Florida 3
San Diego 4 Chicago Cubs 3
Milwaukee 5 L.A. Dodgers 3
Pittsburgh at St. Louis
Colorado at Arizona
Houston at San Francisco
TODAY'S GAMES
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Seattle at Texas, 2:05
Boston at Baltimore, 3:05
Oakland at Cleveland, 7:05
N.Y. Yankees at Tampa Bay, 7:10
Toronto at Minnesota, 8:10
Detroit at Kansas City, 8:10
Chicago Sox at L.A. Angels, 10:05
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7:05
Washington at N.Y. Mets, 7:10
Florida at Cincinnati, 7:10
San Diego at Chicago Cubs, 8:05
L.A. Dodgers at Milwaukee, 8:05
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 8:15
Colorado at Arizona, 9:40
Houston at San Francisco, 10:15

IIHF HOCKEY

QUARTER-FINALS
TODAY'S GAMES
AT QUEBEC CITY
Russia vs. Switzerland, 1
Sweden vs. Czech Republic, 7:15
AT HALIFAX
CANADA vs. Norway, 3:30
Finland vs. U.S., 7:15

LOTTERIES

Ontario Pick 3	0 9 3
Ontario Pick 4	1 1 0 8
Encore	1092807
Daily Keno	4, 7, 9, 13, 14, 15, 20, 22, 24, 27, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 41, 42, 50, 52, 57.

Results not official

Pistons knock out Magic

PISTONS 91 MAGIC 86

Richard Hamilton scored 31 points, and Tayshaun Prince came up with a crucial block in the closing seconds, as the Detroit Pistons moved into the Eastern Conference finals for a sixth straight year by holding on for a 91-86 victory last night over the Orlando Magic.

The Pistons, who won the semifinal series by a 4-1 margin, will face either Boston or Cleveland in the next round. METRO NEWS SERVICES

»sports In Brief

» **MLB** U.S. federal prosecutors have filed a new indictment against slugger Barry Bonds. Bonds was charged with 14 counts of lying to a grand jury and one count of obstruction that he denied knowingly taking illegal performance-enhancing drugs.

» **GOLF** Sweden's Annika Sorenstam, 37, who has dominated women's golf for a decade, said yesterday she would quit competition at the end of this year to focus on family and her business.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Expert dispels maple myths

YORK REPORT
MARTY YORK
marty.york@metronews.ca

Baseball's Battle of Bats starts next week. That's when major-league executives will formally ask players to stop stepping to the plate with maple bats. The execs will ask them to use ash bats instead.

The requests, of course, will be denied by the players' association since nearly half the hitters in MLB — including the Blue Jays' **Vernon Wells** — prefer maple. It's been this way since Ottawa manufacturer **Sam Holman** first introduced maple bats to sluggers such as **Joe Carter** and Barry Bonds late last decade. Many feel maple bats are harder than ash bats and enhance their power and hitting abilities.

As reported here yesterday, however, MLB wants to abolish maple bats because of concerns that they're shattering too frequently and endangering lives.

What we didn't mention yesterday is that a researcher hired by MLB has found that maple is actually no better for batters than ash.

"The two woods are essentially the same at batted-ball speeds," said **Jim Sherwood** of the Baseball Research Centre at the University of Massachusetts. "Maple has no advantage in getting a longer hit over an ash bat."

Sherwood also discovered that, while ash bats crack, maple bats snap, causing sharp-ended barrels to fly often and unpredictably.

Armed with Sherwood's information, MLB will tell the union that safety should come first and that maple bats must go.

"We'll meet on this," union chief **Don Fehr** acknowledged. "We'll look at it in good faith."

Yeah, right. This is a battle that'll become a war.

» Snicker over this tidbit if you'd like, (although it's really no funnier than the preseason prediction by analyst/homer **Rance Mulliniks** that the woebegone Jays would win the World Series this year): A source hears manager **John Gibbons** gets axed soon and replaced by — brace yourself — ex-skipper **Cito Gaston**, who'll try to pass on his hitting wisdom ... In Florida, the Tampa Bay Rays are for real, for sure, but the Marlins? Not so much. They're winning, granted, but only three of their victories in the season's first quarter were against above-.500 teams, and they're 8-1 against the hapless Washington Nationals.

In three-plus decades as a columnist and broadcaster, Marty York has built a network of solid contacts and a renowned reputation for his hard-hitting, groundbreaking style. The tradition continues in Metro Sports.

metro
AUTOmotive
A METRO JOINT VENTURE WITH: carguide magazine.com
Wednesday, May 14, 2008

The MX-5 is still one of the world's best handling cars; the PRHT simply allows you to enjoy its wonderful attributes and grin-generating dynamics year round.

MX-5 fun for all seasons

Mazda makes no compromise with convertible

By **B. MCLAUCHLAN**
for Metro Ottawa

2008 Mazda MX-5 PRHT GX

- Type: Compact 2-pass roadster RWD
- Price: $31,390
- Engine: 2.0L L4 DOHC
- HP: 166 @ 6,700 rpm
- Torque: 140 @ 5,000 rpm

Highlights:

- Driving experience
- Power hardtop makes it a four-season fun house

Our first thought when we clapped eyes on the tin-top version of the Mazda MX-5 was a very practical one. The heady charms of warm weather open-air motoring are a given, but how will this convertible with a power, folding hardtop fare against the freeze-thaw-freeze of our winter climate? How good will this two-seater really be at keeping its driver and passenger warm?

The answer is very well, as a matter of fact. All the wind-in-your-face fun is still there, but even the tail end of one of the harshest winters in recent memory couldn't dampen our enthusiasm for this little charmer.

Mazda has done something quite remarkable with the design of the MX-5 PRHT (Power Retractable Hard Top) by designing a fully-powered, retractable metal hardtop that stores away into the exact same space that the cloth roof would — without nibbling into precious cargo space. Oh, and the whole shebang only added 40 kg to the MX-5's already-slender waistline.

The two-piece top attaches with the same single latch as the standard MX-5's cloth top, and two buttons now flank the emergency flashers on the dash to raise or lower the roof. The procedure is elegant and simple. Fast too, as the whole operation takes about 12 seconds.

This brings the ham-handed soft top design of its main market rivals into even sharper focus; the Saturn Sky and its Pontiac Solstice corporate cousin still have the most frustrating convertible storage system, a 10-step program of frayed nerves, pinched fingers and silent curses.

Back to the MX-5 … the good news is that the PRHT treatment is available right across the model range, from the base GX ($28,195) through the GS ($31,350) to the top-level GT ($34,500). The better news is that it costs a very reasonable $2,195 — a lot less than a good winter beater, safety inspection and extra insurance.

Plus, the PRHT adds some nice visual touches like chrome on the headlight bezels, front grille surround and the outer door handles.

Two buttons now flank the emergency flashers on the dash to raise or lower the roof.

Our loaded GT tester also had welcome extras like heated leather seats and, thanks to the $1,355 GT Performance Pack, a firmer ride, a limited slip differential and Directional Stability Control. A six-speed automatic transmission with paddle shifters (the GS gets a standard five-speed manual while the GX comes with a six-speed manual) is available for an additional $1,255.

On the road, the PRHT is a pure joy to drive. Power is good, but not overwhelming. Handling is exceptional, the engine loves to be revved and the short-throw shifter is a pleasure to guide through the gears.

In either form, the MX-5 is still one of the world's best handling cars; the PRHT simply allows you to enjoy its wonderful attributes and grin-generating dynamics year round … with proper winter tires, of course.

2009 Mazda6 sedan revealed

Mazda has confirmed that its all-new Mazda6 sports sedan will launch later this year, with an expected on-sale date in late summer.

The 2009 Mazda6 is the first of Mazda's "Zoom-Zoom Evolution" second-generation vehicles. The second-generation Mazda6 delivers a combination of sophistication, build quality and product insight not currently found in the market.

"This is a very important vehicle for us because the sales potential is so great," said Don Romano, president of Mazda Canada. "The mid-size sedan segment — where Mazda6 competes — is a real battle-ground, with some of the best vehicles in the industry going toe-to-toe for sales. This new Mazda6 was designed and engineered specifically for the North American market — the third Mazda in a row to be so — and will take on the very best cars from Asia, Europe and North America."

options

» The 2009 Mazda6 will be available only as a four-door sedan. Both the 2.5 and V6 will be available in GS or GT trim grades, with varying levels of standard and optional equipment.

The North American Mazda6 differs from the similarly named car sold in the rest of the world in many ways: larger interior and exterior size, more powerful engines and unique styling.

Power comes from an all-new 2.5-litre, four-cylinder engine and a 3.7-litre V6 as used in the '08 CX-9 crossover SUV. Transmission choices are a six-speed manual or five-speed Sport AT automatic with manual-shift mode (2.5-litre engine), or a six-speed Sport AT automatic with manual-shift mode (3.7-litre V6).

The new 2008 Ford Focus. What makes the Focus so much fun to drive? It starts with Control Blade. An exclusive multi-link rear suspension system that gives you improved steering, handling and passing ability. Add in a short-throw 5-speed manual transmission and optional integrated traction control and you've got yourself a car that rides like it's on rails. So go ahead, charge your friends admission.

FORD.CA/FOCUS

Ford powered by you

What causes DIP-LASH?

Using Miracle Whip dressing to make any dip can result in DIP-LASH. Some of the most likely causes can be found below. Familiarize yourself with these recipes and ingredients and alert your friends and family.

PARMESAN CONFETTI DIP

Prep: 10 min Ready In: 10 min Serves: 20

INGREDIENTS: 1 cup sour cream + 1/2 cup KRAFT 100% Parmesan Grated Cheese + 1/2 cup MIRACLE WHIP Dressing + 1/2 cup each: finely chopped green and red pepper + 1/2 tsp. garlic powder

DIRECTIONS: 1) MIX 2) REFRIGERATE 3) SERVE

HOT ARTICHOKE-PARMESAN DIP

Prep: 5 min Ready In: 20 min Serves: 18

INGREDIENTS: 1 cup MIRACLE WHIP Dressing + 1 cup KRAFT 100% Parmesan Grated Cheese + 1 can (398 mL) artichoke hearts, drained, coarsely chopped + 2 green onions, chopped.

DIRECTIONS: 1) PREHEAT oven to 350°F. Mix all ingredients until well blended. 2) SPOON into 9-inch pie plate. 3) BAKE 15 min. or until hot and bubbly.

CREAMY FIESTA DIP

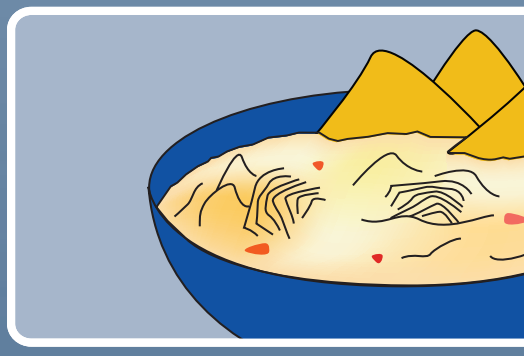
Prep: 10 min Ready In: 10 min Serves: 20

INGREDIENTS: 1 cup MIRACLE WHIP Dressing + 1 cup sour cream + 1/2 cup KRAFT 100% Parmesan Grated Cheese + 1 cup chunky salsa

DIRECTIONS: 1) MIX 2) SERVE

AV

BRACE YOU



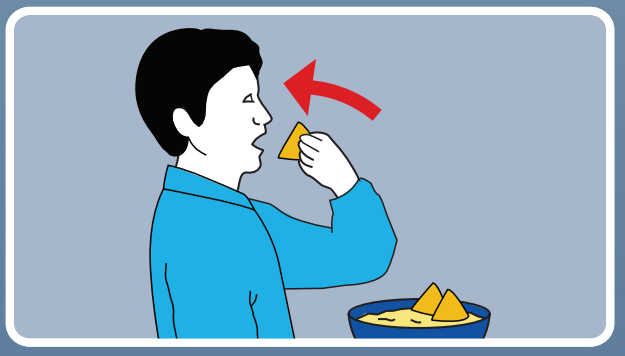
Making your favourite dip with Miracle Wh dressing may cause DIP-LASH.

DIP-LASH can happen to anybody. Be sure alert guests if you have made dip with Miracle Whip. If you or a loved one experie DIP-LASH, please consult your grocer. If y witness someone showing symptoms of DIP-LASH, approach with caution.

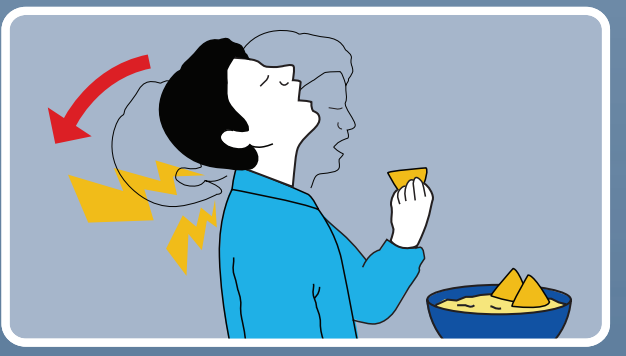
OID DIP-LASH!

RSELF FOR UNIQUE FLAVOUR

ip



DIP-LASH occurs when you least expect it. In fact, that's what causes DIP-LASH – unexpected tastiness.



The unique flavour of Miracle Whip causes one to recoil in delightful surprise – often with injurious results known as "DIP-LASH".

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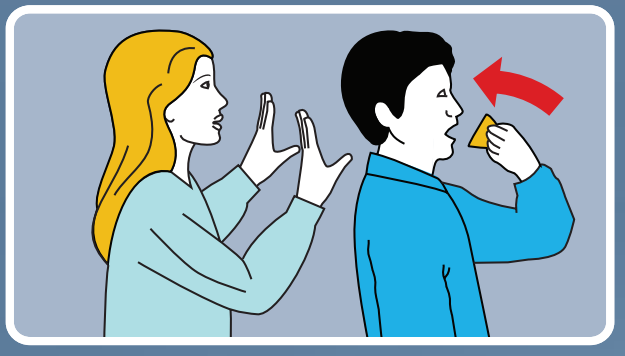
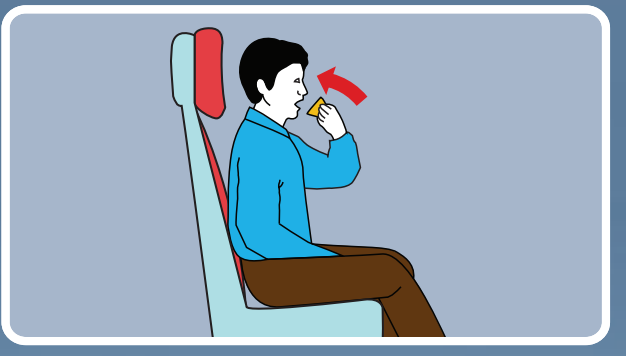


If you are unsure whether or not a dip has been made with Miracle Whip, use the Buddy System.



If a spotter is unavailable, enjoy your dip in an upright, seated position – preferably in a high-backed, padded chair.

WWW.DIPLASH.CA

Couples rate Nissan Rogue

Driving event puts compact crossover to test

Six southern Ontario couples, representative of the new Nissan Rogue's target market, experienced what professional auto writers take for granted recently, when they were invited to drive the compact crossover and give their impressions of it.

Their "Rogue Weekend" began with an advanced driving course at the PMG Technologies skidpad near Montreal, and concluded with an extensive two-day test drive to Ottawa over a variety of back roads and highways in real winter conditions.

It began to snow as the group arrived at PMG Technologies where they were met by professional racing driver-turned-instructor, Guy Lahaie of Trois Rivieres, Que.

Lahaie's mission: to teach the group advanced driving skills with the focus on skid control, proper use of the anti-lock braking system, and collision avoidance techniques.

As the snowfall intensified, the drivers took turns through the various courses and with each consecutive pass, their confidence and skill levels rose.

From Blaineville, the group motored to Chateau Montebello where they anticipated a challenging drive to Ottawa the next morning through spectacular Laurentian Mountains scenery.

The Nissan Rogue

Sean Kavanaugh of Burlington liked the steering wheel's wide range of position settings, large print and easily identifiable switches and controls, while his wife, Allison, especially liked the heated seats and seatbacks.

Six-foot tall Ally Isted, also of Burlington, found entering and exiting the vehicle "extremely easy."

Everything important was easily within reach for Eva Choe of Toronto, who liked the seat warmers and the large, round knobs for the heating and air conditioning.

Jeff Chan of Hamilton offered kudos for "great seats and height adjustments on the non-powered front seat in his tester."

For Frank Verrilli of Toronto: "The radio controls in the steering wheel make it easier for the single driver, as well as safer."

"We purposely drove over bumps to get a feel for the ride comfort level," said Ally Isted, "and the bumps felt almost non-existent."

All around visibility was "quite good," said Mat Rodriguez, though the view directly rearward was restricted by the "smallish back window," a point noted by more than half of the drivers.

Tammy Chan found the brakes quick to respond, and not too touchy. "The steering wheel felt like a true extension of my arms," she said.

Said hubby Jeff, "the ride is slightly stiff, but I'll take that over a tall vehicle that wants to lean in the corners."

The Vehicle Dynamic Control "made a huge difference" during the car control exercises, said Monika Bujalska of Toronto. Even through slalom cones on snow and ice, "the vehicle responds remarkably to steering commands."

Oscar Valencia, who moved to Canada from Columbia nine years ago, noted that a big part of driving in Canada "is doing it in snowy conditions, and this car responded perfectly."

"When I slammed on the brakes, I was still in control and was able to steer where I wanted to go," said Allison Kavanaugh.

The continuously variable transmission was a unanimous hit. "Totally seamless and extremely smooth," pronounced Oscar Valencia. "I'm sold," said Jeff Chan.

Tammy Chan found backseat room "nice and tall with lots of leg room. We could easily load up our kids and their three hockey bags."

Lanky Paul Constantin of Burlington found "plenty of foot room" under the front seats. "The spare tire is in a convenient place (under the cargo floor) and the bolt that holds it on can't get rusty (in that location)."

Several drivers noted that the front passenger seatback flipped forward a tad too forcefully when unlatched.

In the end, the Rogue received high marks all around, with 75 per cent of the drivers saying it exceeded their expectations, and the remaining quarter saying it met theirs.

Thirty-three per cent (four drivers) rated the Rogue as "excellent" value for money and 50 per cent viewed it as "above average." Two drivers called it "good" value.

FROM THE EDITORS OF CARGUIDE

Q&A with Nissan Canada president Mark Grimm

» **CARGUIDE:** What sets the new Nissan Rogue apart from the small crossover-utility segment?
MARK GRIMM: Rogue answers consumers' demands for an expressively styled, small crossover that offers the utility they need and value they require. It looks and feels like a premium vehicle, yet Rogue's low price and high fuel efficiency make it affordable to buy and inexpensive to operate. Rogue's combination of style, versatile utility and on-road performance make it a superior choice. It offers a full complement of standard safety equipment, including ABS brakes, vehicle dynamic control (VDC) and front, side and curtain supplemental airbags. Its roomy interior and innovative utility features mean that it is ready to handle day-to-day journeys or multi-week adventures.
» **CG:** What are the vehicle's main selling points?
MG: The Rogue's exterior was designed to present an image of modern sophistication ... With its driver-focused cockpit, combined with state-of-the-art technology, like intuitive All-Wheel Drive, Xtronic CVT, Bluetooth hands-free phone system and paddle shifters, it will shift the way customers think about small crossovers. It comes packed with a long list of standard safety features like front seat-mounted side-impact and roof-mounted curtain supplemental air bags, anti-lock braking system, stability control (VDC), traction control, tire pressure monitoring and more.

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Two roads diverged in a wood,
and I took the one less travelled by,
and that has made all the diference.
- Robert Frost

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Travel back to the revolution

Old English town held reins to industry in 1800s

By **EMMA E FORREST**
Metro World News

If you have ever wondered what it would have been like to live in Britain during the Industrial Revolution, then visit Blists Hill Victorian Town in Shropshire, England.

You can truly step back in time at Blists Hill. It's just one of nine museums in the Ironbridge area — including the Jackfield Tile Museum, Coalport China Museum, Museum of Iron and the Iron Bridge itself, the world's first cast iron bridge, built in 1779 over the River Severn — that showcase the best of the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution. Located in the heart of England, the area is considered so historically important that it is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Each building in the Victorian town dates from the 1800s and has been carefully transported to the village and reconstructed brick by brick to recreate a small industrial town toward the end of Queen Victoria's reign.

Guides in costume and in character breathe life into these immaculately recreated shops, workplaces and homes, offering an astounding insight into what life was like more than 100 years ago.

Turn your pounds into shillings in the Victorian Lloyds bank and leave contemporary England behind. Treat yourself to a bag of candy from the sweet shop, buy some freshly baked bread and see what's on offer in the grocers, chemist, candle makers and printers for all your turn of the century needs.

At lunchtime, you can send your children off to the school, where they will be taught a lesson, Victorian-style, with chalk and blackboard, by a strict and smartly-dressed head teacher. Meanwhile, you can nip off for a pint of traditional ale in the wood-panelled Victorian pub, where the locals gather round the piano for an old-fashioned singalong.

If you want you can even be Victorian and actively participate in the experience. Enrol in the blacksmithing course — the wrought iron works at Blists Hill is the only working iron foundry in Europe — and you'll be taught how to heat iron and steel until it is white hot before hammering it into shape on the anvil. Using traditional blacksmithing skills you'll be taught how to make objects including a fire poker, leaf key ring and coat hook. It's serious work, though, with amateur blacksmiths feeling the heat and developing giant blisters on their hands as they hammer repeatedly at the iron rod to knock it into shape.

Despite the hard labour, it's a course people find creative, inspiring and rewarding. As most of us urban types don't actually get to make anything in the after school age — we just buy things then throw them away — most people find it satisfying to put time into producing something useful and durable in the blacksmithing course. And with the world's current problems of environmental sustainability in mind, it's also one of the interesting things about visiting Blists Hill, and learning about how the Victorians lived.

WWW.BRITAINONVIEW.COM

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The Iron Bridge was first opened in 1781. Left, visitors walk across the bridge, and right, blacksmithing at Blists Hill.

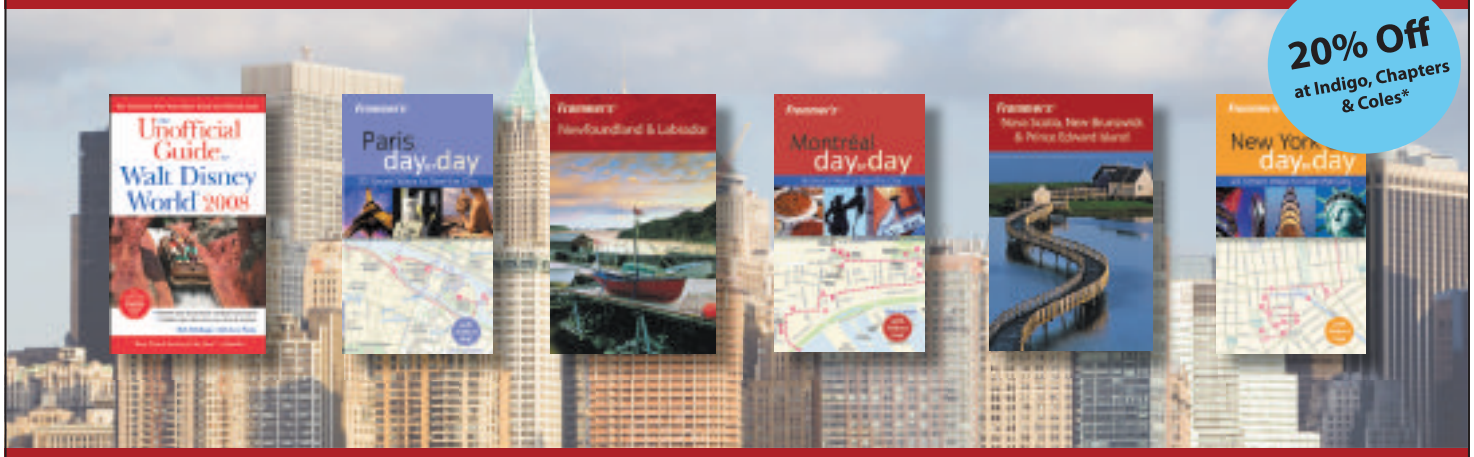
need to know

» Blacksmithing Experience Days cost £100 (about $200 Cdn) per person including all materials, a pub lunch and refreshments. Visit *ironbridge.org.uk*.

» Where to stay: The White Hart, Ironbridge. A spacious pub with stylish contemporary décor. For more, go to *thewhitehartiron bridge.com*.

» Where to eat: The Drapers Hall, Shrewsbury. A staggering black and white building built in 1576 as a meeting place for the local guild of drapers merchants. See *shrewsburydrapers.org.uk*. METRO WORLD NEWS

Experience Authentic Travel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Volunteer travel

Opportunities to help others while on holiday

JULIA DIMON/FOR METRO OTTAWA

A growing number of tourists interested in giving back to the local community are opting for volunteer-based holidays.

In our world of beaten-track travel, many tourists are looking for alternative holiday experiences where they can learn about local culture while giving back. "Volun-tourism," as it is now known, is a growing trend that blends volunteer work with travel. It's a chance for foreigners to pitch in, get their hands dirty and help the local community while on holiday.

No matter what your interest, there are volunteer opportunities in all parts of the world. From environmental protection to animal rights, archeological digs to organic farming, there's something for everyone.

Here are a few interesting opportunities to earn some Karma credits:

COMMUNITY CARE

Global Volunteers is a non-profit, non-religious organization specializing in short-term volunteer placements across 21 countries. Anyone can participate in their projects, regardless of skill or profession. Care for orphaned children in Romania, build playgrounds in Jamaica, help the elderly in the Cook Islands or work on an organic coffee co-operative in Costa Rica. Visit *www.globalvolunteers.org.*

ANIMAL AID

PRETOMA, a non-governmental organization (NGO), offers volunteer placements aimed at protecting endangered sea turtles. From June to December, along the Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, tourists can take part in hands-on conservation programs that monitor and secure turtle nesting beaches. Prices range from $330 a week to $970 a month (they recommend at least two weeks), with accommodations in cabins, hotels or homestays. Visit *www.tortugamarina.org*

THE TRAVEL JUNKIE
JULIA DIMON
www.thetraveljunkie.ca

HANDS-ON

Grab your hammer and tool belt! Habitat for Humanity's "global village" program has volunteers labouring to build affordable housing for disadvantaged people around the world. Teams of volunteers are sent on trips of one to three weeks long. Fees (which include food, accommodation and ground transportation) vary according to location. From Paraguay to Tajikistan, Cambodia to our own Canadian back yards, this non-profit initiative is creating change, one nail at a time. Apply for upcoming trips online at *www.habitat.ca.*

CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Offering experiences from two to 12 weeks, Cross-Cultural Solutions places volunteers in a variety of programs: promote female empowerment in rural Tanzania, work with kids in Morocco or teach English in China. According to their website, their philosophy of sustainability ensures that 90 per cent of the fees go to the volunteer program, not to exorbitant overhead costs. Visit *www.crossculturalsolutions.org*

ECO-EXPEDITIONS

At Earth Watch, you can join teams of scientists for a wide selection of environmentally-focused expeditions. Study the carnivores of Madagascar, the conch shells of Belize or the crocodiles of the Zambezi. This particular Earth Watch experience is 11 days, from June to March 2009 (costs $2,946). A typical day includes collecting data and researching across Canada's vast tundra. Visit *www.earthwatch.org.*

Freelance writer Julia Dimon is editor of The Travel Junkie and host of Word Travels, a new reality TV-series to be broadcast on OLN in 2008. Contact her at www.thetraveljunkie.ca.

Julia's tips on volountourism

» There are so many volountourism themed companies that actually picking one may seem overwhelming. Guy Hobbs, author of Hands-On Holidays (a comprehensive guide book to volunteer opportunities around the world) offers the following advice:

» When you're deciding between organizations, be sure to get a personal recommendation. An organization that is sure of the quality of its projects will willingly put you in touch with former participants for the real low-down.

» Try to seek out organizations that work with just a few partners. Those that offer hundreds of placements in many countries are unlikely to have visited and vetted every single project.

» Responsible organizations will build up strong relationships with host organizations and only arrange placements when there is a specific requirement for workers. Whereas, profit-oriented agencies sign up as many travellers as they can and then seek out placements.

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Each day, until June 4th, look for one of these icons among the pages of Metro. Then log on to experiencehalifax.com/metro and tell us which one you saw for your chance to win. Once you have entered the contest check out the terrific line up of festivals taking place this season in Atlantic Canada's Entertainment Capital – Halifax!
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music

The bestselling CDs on Amazon.ca are: 1. Hard Candy, Madonna, left; 2. Third, Portishead; 3. The Reminder, Feist; 4. Snacktime, Barenaked Ladies; 5. Once Soundtrack, Various Artists. METRO NEWS SERVICES

No need to Panic

Rock band drops exclamation mark, hits Abbey Road

By **IAN NATHANSON**
for Metro Ottawa

WARNER MUSIC PHOTO

Pretty. Odd. is the new album from Panic At The Disco.

As Panic At The Disco discovered, no trip to London, England, was complete without a stop by the iconic Abbey Road recording studios where The Beatles made most of their classic recordings.

While they enjoyed a walk across that iconic crosswalk immortalized on the Fab Four's 1969 album cover, the Las Vegas rockers also happened to be at Abbey Road on business — to mix and add orchestral flourishes to sophomore release, Pretty. Odd.

"We recorded the strings and the horns there just because that studio is known as the best place for the type of sound we were looking for," drummer Spencer Smith says. "And the guy who ended up mixing the album, Peter Cobbin, is one of the head mixers at Abbey Road. It was all an amazing experience, being in the same studios where some of the records we love the best were made."

Months later, Smith, guitarist Ryan Ross, bassist Jon Walker and vocalist Brendon Urie got a chance to perform in the building's Studio 1 as part of a TV special, Live From Abbey Road.

Although Pretty. Odd. was largely recorded in Las Vegas, Panic At The Disco isn't shy about channelling its British influences. The mix of upbeat pop, folk, vaudeville and psychedelia echo the likes of Queen, The Kinks and The Beatles, the latter noticeably evident on the Sgt. Pepper-style opening of We're So Starving and Nine In The Afternoon.

"These are basically songs about us being in a band, being excited about writing new songs and working on new material and not only being known for the 14 songs we wrote when we were 17 years old," Smith says.

Smith acknowledges that Pretty. Odd. proffers a significant shift away from the angsty, emo-punk stylings of the group's 2005 debut, A Fever You Can't Sweat Out.

"When you're 16 or 17, you don't really want listen to the music your parents listened to — it isn't cool," Smith says. "Years later, we ended up realizing why a lot of those older songs were so good and more interesting to hear than what's currently on the radio."

Does that shift explain why there's no longer an exclamation mark as part of the Panic name?

Explains Smith, "When we were making the artwork and cover for this album, the artist was like, 'Do you guys want the exclamation point?' and we ended up deciding, 'Nah, let's take it out.'"

metro TOP5IVE

Nirvana's Kurt Cobain

Grunge acts:

1. Nirvana
2. Pearl Jam
3. Soundgarden
4. Alice In Chains
5. Smashing Pumpkins

— Metro News Services

Goldfrapp ambivalent about Madge

They are credited with influencing the fashion style of Madonna but British electronica band Goldfrapp don't have much time for the pop diva or other big acts they will be playing with this summer.

Grammy-nominated Alison Goldfrapp and Will Gregory, whose fourth album Seventh Tree hit No. 2 in Britain in February, will share the big stages at two outdoor British music festivals with hip-hop mogul Jay-Z and Madonna.

"I think her fearlessness is amazing but I don't have particularly any admiration for her work," Goldfrapp, dressed in tight blue jeans, a shirt and sunglasses that were never removed, told Reuters in a recent interview.

On Sunday, the group — acclaimed for their breadth of musical styles that canvas anything from pop to dance to glam rock — kick off a tour of European concerts and summer festivals starting at BBC's Radio 1 music festival, where Madonna is also performing.

EMI MUSIC PHOTO

Alison Goldfrapp

The straight-talking Goldfrapp will also be mixing with Jay-Z at Glastonbury, which has been criticized for straying from its roots by featuring the rapper as one of its top acts.

"People don't want it to become Americanized or kind of different, where you can't just wander around any more sort of half-naked with mud over you. I can see, understand that," Goldfrapp said about world's biggest open-air music and arts festival, which she dubbed "an English institution."

"I understand why people might start getting nervous that it will slowly wipe out the eccentric hippies ... Hip-hop is really conventional, I think," she said. "It's quite flashy, it's a lot about money, money."

Gregory, who hails from Bristol, England — famed for breeding other electronic groups such as Massive Attack and Portishead — said hip-hop was "about being wealthy, wearing a lot of jewelry" and was likely taken on due to Glastonbury's ever-growing reach. REUTERS

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entertainment

Megan Mullally, left, has signed on to play Alicia Silverstone's mom in ABC's new fall comedy Bad Mother's Handbook.
TVGUIDE.COM

legal

Farina apologizes for gun arrest

PEOPLE Dennis Farina has issued a public apology following his arrest for felony weapons possession charges, imdb.com reports.

The actor was arrested at Los Angeles International Airport on Sunday after a loaded gun was found in his briefcase. He was charged with carrying a concealed weapon following the discovery of the .22 caliber, semi-automatic pistol. Farina was released on Sunday night after posting $35,000 US bail.

Farina

"I apologize to anyone and everyone that I have caused any embarrassment or inconvenience to," he said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Bye bye bachelorhood

Grant's fiancée wins him over by being herself

By **SANDY CAETANO**
for Metro Ottawa

The age-old advice of just being yourself certainly worked in the case of Shayne Dahl Lamas.

The 22-year-old actress captured the heart of Matt Grant, the bachelor on The Bachelor: London Calling, and the couple are now engaged.

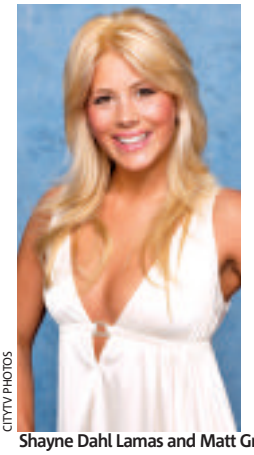
"She's just so kind and caring and considerate about all her friends and family — she's also very confident and strong herself," said Grant, a global financier from London. "It's quite rare in Britain to have that balance without being arrogant and cocky and full of yourself."

Unlike the last season of The Bachelor, where the man looking for love ended up not choosing anyone, this season's suitor popped the question to his special lady.

Grant proposed to Lamas on Monday night's finale of the reality show with a 2.85-carat Tacori platinum and diamond eternity ring (an estimated value of $60,000 US) — and she said yes.

All throughout The Bachelor: London Calling, Grant, the first-ever British Bachelor, has let the world know he's crazy about American women.

Lamas, the daughter of actor Lorenzo Lamas, proved to Grant she was the real deal by being herself every moment they were together, be it alone or surrounded by the other women vying for a piece of his heart. The 22-year-old actress also endured a dirty and physical game of rugby with the other contestants in the bid to gain his love.


CITYTV PHOTOS

Shayne Dahl Lamas and Matt Grant.

So what was it that caught her eye besides Grant's looks and charm?

"First of all he's handsome, and if you ever are in his presence his aura and his presence is just unbelievable, he's just amazing," said Lamas. "Just being in the same room with him, I mean his friends even say the same thing – and he's very tall, too (6-foot-5), that's great for short women because they can wear high heels."

The couple plans on traveling a bit, and having homes in Los Angeles and in London, since they each have family in both places.

As for a wedding date, nothing has been set. Grant and Lamas want to spend some time getting to know each other better before tying the knot.

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metro life panel

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Final three prove talent

Idol contestants make choice tough for viewers

By **SANDY CAETANO**
for Metro Ottawa

We're down to the final three and though the remaining competitors are each strong singers, it's time to blow viewers away.

With three songs and three chances to prove why they deserve a shot at the title of American Idol, David Archuleta, Syesha Mercado and David Cook were all on an equal playfield. None of them slam dunked all three songs, and in my books were each tied with two solid performances.

Round one was a judges' choice. Archuleta took on Paula Abdul's choice of Billy Joel's And So It Goes, and as usual his voice was amazing.

Randy Jackson gave Mercado If I Ain't Got You by Alicia Keys, which was a great decision. Not only did Mercado deliver it well, but she is just a brilliant singer with a powerful set of vocals.

Simon Cowell's pick for Cook was a brilliant one, and Cook was up for the challenge and passed with flying colours. Cook made The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face by Roberta Flack his own, literally. This guy is gutsy and ballsy, and not afraid to take a risk.

Round two saw the competitors choose something they wanted to sing, and it was nothing phenomenal for any of them.

Round three was a producer's selection. And this was where they all succeeded again.

Though Archuleta doesn't take any chances, never does anything daring when he gets up on stage, he is a phenomenal singer. Dan Fogelberg's Longer wasn't much of a challenge but it was right up his ally.

Hit Me Up by Gia Farrell was Mercado's third song, and overall it was great.

As for Cook's performance of Aerosmith's I Don't Want To Miss A Thing, he was in his element. There's no doubt Cook will leave this show, winner or not, and end up with a long lasting career.

Marriage bust up saddens Reynolds

Al Reynolds is opening up — a little — about his split from Star Jones, saying he's saddened by the breakup, People.com reports.

"I know in my heart that I entered my marriage with love and the best of intentions and leave it with great sadness that it didn't work," Reynolds wrote in a MySpace post yesterday.

Jones, 46, filed for divorce from Reynolds, 37, last month. She didn't give a reason for the split, but Jones said she made "an error in judgment" by inviting the media into their lavish 2004 wedding.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Madonna, left, will not attend the final court ruling on her request to adopt a Malawian child because she is busy with other engagements. The High Court is expected to approve Madonna's bid to adopt David Banda, 2, at a final session tomorrow. REUTERS

Welcome to the killing fields

IDIOT BOX

RICK McGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

BRING OUT YOUR DEAD: The current TV season is ringing down, and like any decent Shakespeare play, the stage is littered with bodies. The networks are trying to lighten the tone of this downbeat little drama by announcing new shows and renewals at the same time, but there's no denying that it's a dismal end to a dispiriting year, and that there are some people (well, just me, probably) who think that they'd do just as well to nuke their whole primetime schedules and start all over again with a kind of broadcast year zero.

ABC leads the list this year with an impressive body count, tallied up conveniently by the Los Angeles Times. There's a lot of what you'd expect — Cavemen is gone, as is Carpoolers, Big Shots, October Road and Miss Guided. Cashmere Mafia, Women's Murder Club and Men In Trees are also among the fallen, as is — cue shock chords — Oprah's Big Give, which was dropped at the request of Oprah Winfrey herself. "We loved that show and absolutely would have loved to bring it back," ABC entertainment president Steve McPherson told the Hollywood Reporter. "But it was something (Oprah) didn't want to do."

The network is taking Scrubs over from NBC, and says they have 17 new pilots in development for midseason launch, which promises to make September on ABC look pretty quiet, but it may turn out that other networks are going to make an equally soft start on the fall TV season.

ABC's casualty list is as large as Fox and CBS combined, neither of which contain many surprises, either, except for Fox' axing of Back To You, the newsroom comedy starring Kelsey Grammar and Patricia Heaton.

Grammar, it turns out, had to find out about his show's termination from Nikki Finke's L.A. Weekly blog, and posed with an impromptu memorial erected by fans outside Fox's offices, though Finke reported that CBS is rumoured to be interested in picking up the show.

Oprah

Canterbury's Law, New Amsterdam and The Return Of Jezebel James are gone at Fox, while CBS has done a higher profile housecleaning, killing off Jericho — at last — as well as Shark, Moonlight, Cane and Welcome To The Captain, the latter show bearing the not-so-unusual distinction of being a program I've never heard of until now.

NBC has cut Las Vegas and Journeyman from its schedule, and finally confirmed that they can't rebuild Bionic Woman, and the CW has dropped Girlfriends and Aliens In America. Britney Spears' well-publicized cameos on How I Met Your Mother is apparently a big reason for the show's renewal, and among the shows reprieved for another year are titles like Boston Legal, Rules Of Engagement, The New Adventures Of Old Christine and According To Jim, which is proof of life after death, if nothing else.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera. He walked 47 miles of barbed wire and has a cobra snake for a necktie.

television

Rapaport lands Prison Break role

CASTING Michael Rapaport has landed a role in Fox's Prison Break.

The actor is joining the drama as a series regular for its upcoming fourth season. He will play a government agent who has an interesting offer for Michael Scofield (Wentworth Miller) and his brother, death-row inmate Lincoln Burrows (Dominic Purcell). REUTERS

»news In Brief

» **REALITY TV** **Mothers will get to choose brides for their sons on a new reality series from NBC and American Idol host Ryan Seacrest. In Momma's Boy, a group of "controlling mothers," their eligible "complacent sons" and several brides-to-be live together under one roof.** REUTERS

	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 5/14/08	265	353	2 TVO	Crocodiles The caiman.		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Lilies "The Serpant"		The View From Here (N)		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3 GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom ★★★ (1984, Adventure)					Family Guy	News (N)
	-	-	5 SRC	Des squelettes	L'Épicerie	La Petite Séduction (N) (SC)		Bons baisers de France (SC)		Le Téléjournal (N) (SC)		La Zone
	209	342	6 CHRO	Wheel-Fortune	Degrassi: Next	Smallville "Arctic" (N)		Supernanny (N)		Law & Order (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	196	311	7 CTV	eTalk	Jeopardy! (N)	Criminal Minds (N)		American Idol		CSI: NY "Taxi" (N)		News (N)
	208	303	8 CBC	22 Minutes	Just-Gags	Little Mosque	Sophie	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	-	360	9 NBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Deal or No Deal (N)				Law & Order (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	117	713	10 TVA	Marché	Poule-oeufs or	Comicographie (N)		Esprits criminels (HDTV)		Le TVA 22 heures (N) (SC)		Lévesque
	-	-	11 QS	Rire et délire	Coup dur ★ (1998, Action) Jean-Claude Van Damme. (SC)				Criss Angel	Journal du soir	(10:45) Cent dix pour cent	
	137	763	12 TFO	Panorama en direct		Metropolis		Oxhide (2005, Drame)				Tsunami
	-	362	13 CBS	Dr. Phil (N)		Price Is Right Spectacular		Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY "Taxi" (N)		Two/Half Men
	216	395	14 OMN2	Law & Order: SVU		News (N)		News (N)		King	King	Cold Case
	214	344	15 CITY	Friends	Hollywood	America's Next Top Model (N)		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		2Half Men	2Half Men	News (N)
	115	343	16 CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	218	345	18 CH	The Insider (N)	E! News	Deal or No Deal (N)				Stunt Stars		News (N)
	-	361	20 ABC	News (N)	Entertainment	Wife Swap "Coste/Ives"		Supernanny (N)		Boston Legal (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	512	396	24 CPAC	Revue Politique		L'Heure politique		La Période de questions		Revue Politique		Heure polit.
	651	355	25 CTS	Full House	Facts of Life	Michael Coren Show		100 Huntley Street		Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee
	-	365	36 FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	'Til Death	Back to You	American Idol		News (N)		News
	-	-	64 PBS	Business Rpt.	Drum TV	Secrets of the Dead (N)		The Adirondacks (HDTV) (N)				Tavis Smiley
	205	312	104 CTV	Hollywood	eTalk	Criminal Minds (N)		American Idol		CSI: NY "Taxi" (N)		News (N)
news	502	390	26 NW	News (N)	Newman	The Hour Ivan Reitman.		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
sports	406	417	27 net	Memorial Cup Preview		MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Minnesota Twins. (HDTV) (Live)						Sportsnet Con.
	126	730	28 RDI	Dominique Poirier en direct		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		Le Club des ex	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30 TSN	That's Hockey	NHL Pregame	NHL Hockey: Western Conference Final Game 4 -- Red Wings at Stars					SportsCentre	
	410	403	52 SCR	NBA Basketball: Eastern Conference Semifinal Game 5 -- Cavaliers at Celtics						NBA Basketball: West Semifinal -- Jazz at Lakers		
	411	457	56 OLN	Exploration	Videos	Ed's Up	Angry Planet	The Rig: Oil	Man's Work	Word Travels	Globe Guides	Pilot Guides
	417	406	59 SC	Pinks	Pass Time	Countdown to All-Star (N)		NASCAR All-Star '08 (N)		Unique Whips		Pinks
family	554	544	48 TEL	George-Jungle	Road Runner	Scooby-Doo	Futurama	Tripping-Rift	Tripping-Rift	Robot Chicken	Robot Chicken	Tripping-Rift
	557	540	51 FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	551	542	65 YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Mon. Warriors	Futurama	Shadow Raider	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	570	580	29 MM	mmmtop	Popaganda		Back In	Listed		Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Celeb. Rehab
cable variety	615	520	31 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Slow Burn"		CSI: Miami
	628	584	32 SPKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		UFC Unleashed (N)		The Ultimate Fighter (N)		Ways to Die
	521	560	34 TLC	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate
	145	761	35 TV5	Toute une histoire		Mon idole ★★★ (2002, Com. dramatique) François Berléand.				24 idées sec	Invité-marque	Journal TV5
	616	521	39 SHO	ReGenesis "Haze"		Da Vinci's Inquest		Trailer Park	Rent-A-Goalie	Life "A Civil War"		House
	620	523	40 BVO	Literature Alive	Arts & Minds	Wingfield	Camera	True Meaning of Pictures: Shelby Lee Adams			Abbas in Iran	Law & Order
	520	505	42 DIS	Daily Planet (N)		Really Big Things (N)		Dirty Jobs		Mayday "Gimli Glider" (N)		Daily Planet
	575	583	43 CMT	CMT30	Totally	Cheerleader Nation		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	Totally
	601	562	45 SLC	Women on Top	Til Debt-Part	X-Weighted		How to Find a Husband		Trading Spouses		X-Weighted
	625	548	46 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Lewis Black	Reno 911!	Daily Show
	294	529	47 TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Cliffhanger ★★★ (1993, Action) Sylvester Stallone.				Frasier	Seinfeld	Friends
	600	564	49 H&G	House Hunters	Buy Me	Hid Potential	House Worth?	Property Virgin	Big City Broker	Unsellable	Buy Me	Open House
	627	528	50 SPC	Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Voyager		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Supernatural		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	53 MTV	MTV e2	MTV Peaks '08	4REAL	The Paper	The Real World		The Real World (N)		MTV Live
	618	524	54 TROP	TV Made, Do It	Ad Persuasion	ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
	522	506	55 HIS	JAG (DVS)		Re-Inventors	Urban Legends	Jerusalem 1948: A War		Crime Stories		JAG (DVS)
	129	773	60 CD	Biographies		Mythes urbains	Paranormales	Hantise (HDTV)		Un tueur si proche		Maxim Martin-
	261	394	61 V	Murder, She Wrote		Sorry!	No Place Like	Jeeves and Wooster		Frank Sinatra Memorial (N)		Frank Sinatra
	602	567	62 W	Will & Grace	Friends	Shopping Bags	Style by Jury	Smart Cookies	Stuck	Maxed Out	Style by Jury	Style by Jury
	269	350	70 APTN	Winnipeg Comedy Festival		APTN National News: Contact		Northern Exposure		500 Nations (Part 8 of 8)		Moccasin Flats
	621	527	71 TLK	Look-A-Like	Hollywood	TMZ (N)	eTalk	Design	In Fashion	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		eTalk
	603	561	95 FN	Ricardo	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Iron Chef America		Dinner Imposs.	Glutton-Punish.	Challenge

critics'corner

Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom

Indy (Harrison Ford) is back in the 1984 sequel to "Raiders of the Lost Ark." This time, he's in search of mythical stones that are the source of a village's prosperity. Accompanying him in his quest is a pint-sized kid (Ke Huy Quan, "The Goonies") with a bad case of hero worship and a nightclub singer (Kate Capshaw) who screams at everything. Amrish Puri co-stars as the reader of a blood-thirsty cult. 8 PM on 3 GTV

Stuck

Support groups can be helpful, and they don't always have to be formal. In this new series, seven women get together to assist one another in accomplishing goals and dealing with personal issues. The participants include weight-conscious Magnolia; Maxine, who often is too selfless for her own good; withdrawn Clarice; procrastinator Tracy, who also has high blood pressure; and Mary, who can't get past the death of her brother. 9:30 PM on 62 W

celebritybuzz

Wedding bells for Cynthia?

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Sex And The City: The Movie star Cynthia Nixon wants to wed her partner Christine Marinoni – because gay weddings are "rebellious," imdb.com reports. The actress began dating Marinoni in 2004, and rumours surfaced last month the pair would marry later this year in a low key ceremony. But Nixon, 42, admits she's never been keen on marriage in the past – although she would consider wedding Marioni because it would be an act of rebellion. She says, "It (marriage) is something my girlfriend is interested in and it was not something my boyfriend (Danny Mozer, with who she spilt after 15 years together) ever was. I think that to get married to her would be a little act of rebellion. It's like if you've never had the vote and then you get it you're going to run out there and vote. I always avoided marriage in the past and was very wary of it. I felt like it was potentially a trap. People sometimes want the party, the gifts, and the public celebration of this big love – they're excited about that rather than the life commitment. So I always stayed clear of it."

Metro News Services

Beyoncé's weight gain spurs baby rumours

Beyoncé Knowles, who still won't confirm her April 4 wedding to Jay-Z, is also keeping quiet about whether or not she is pregnant, PageSix.com reports. Friends of the tight-lipped newlyweds say the songbird is expecting the couple's first child." She has gained a lot of pregnancy weight," a source said.

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A rep for Knowles said, "I don't know if she's pregnant. Let me perform an ultrasound and get back to you."

Metro News Services

Tony, Jessica split?

According to starmagazine.com, while partying with several Eastern Illinois alumni on the weekend, Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo revealed he and Jessica Simpson are on the outs, reports Chicago gossip blog These Boots Are Made for Stalking.

"He told us they broke up and that was that," Romo's pal told the blog.

Romo made the most of his boys' weekend – from seeing a Chicago Cubs game to boozing at local hotspots.

Metro News Services

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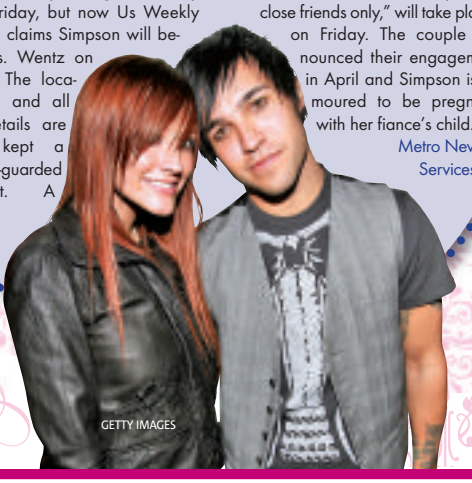
Ashlee, Pete to tie knot on Saturday

Ashlee Simpson and Pete Wentz will wed on Saturday, according to the latest U.S. reports, says imdb.com. The pop couple was rumoured to be planning a ceremony for this Friday, but now Us Weekly magazine claims Simpson will become Mrs. Wentz on Saturday. The location, time and all other details are being kept a closely-guarded secret. A source close to the pair tells the publication, "Proper invites have not been sent out but guests have been given a save-the-date notice." A rehearsal dinner, for "family and close friends only," will take place on Friday. The couple announced their engagement in April and Simpson is rumoured to be pregnant with her fiance's child.

Metro News Services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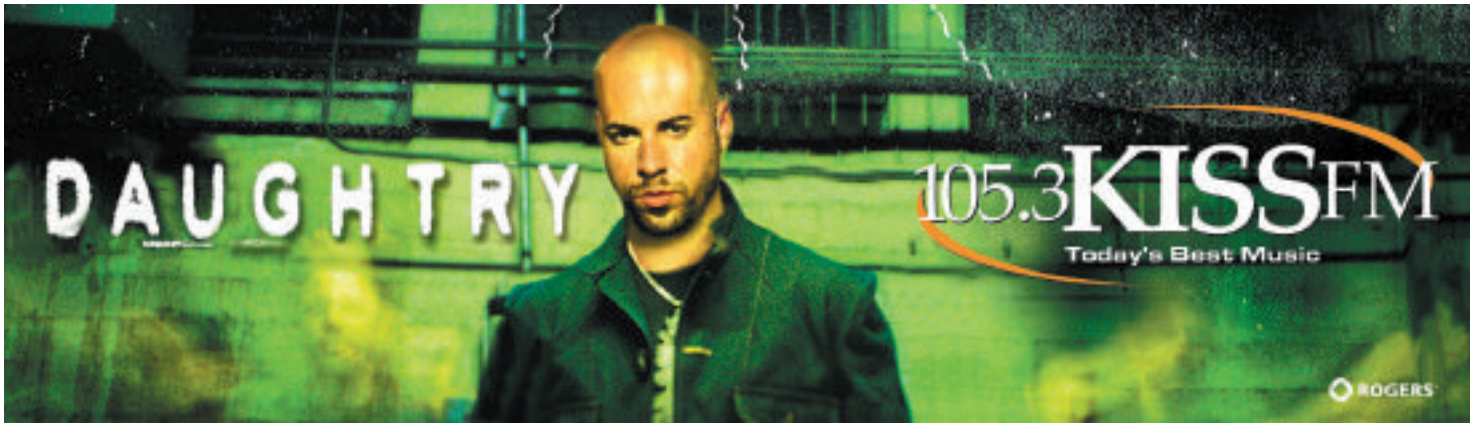
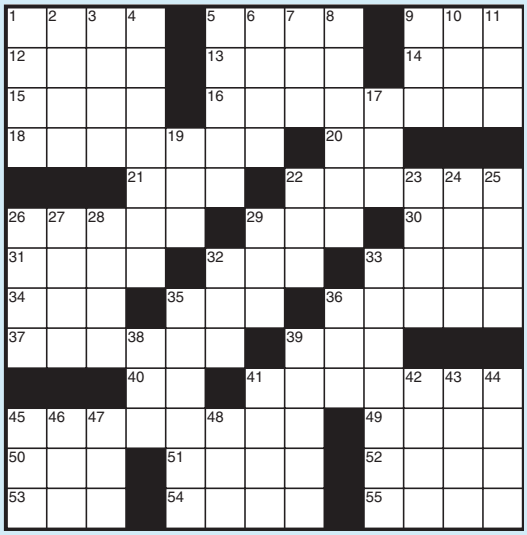




down »

1 Campus area
2 Reliable
3 Inventor's spark
4 Yanking
5 Pine for
6 Flight routes
7 Tool set
8 Work with clay
9 Come down with
10 Hole in one
11 School of dolphins
17 Cyberspace letters
19 Sister of Helios
22 Worthless coin
23 Frizzy coif
24 Big hunk
25 Vandals
26 Furtive sound
27 Pinocchio, e.g.
28 She taught in Siam
29 — kwon do
32 Slalom run
33 Ice cream choices
35 Most extreme
36 — — step further
38 Bossie's chew
39 Police raids
41 Surface layer
42 Name in essays
43 In case
44 Blouse part
45 Unopened flower
46 Mormon predecessor
47 Untrained, as recruits
48 Billiard stick

across »

1 Ear cleaner (hyph.)
5 Talks on and on
9 Fence flaw
12 Karachi language
13 Mr. Sevareid
14 Environmental prefix
15 "The Mammoth Hunters" writer
16 Set in motion
18 New car sources
20 — -cal
21 Free electron
22 Make ripples
26 Organizes
29 Three-year-old
30 Kind of vaccine
31 Carry a tune
32 Paris thirst-quencher
33 Ollie's pal
34 — Diego Chargers
35 Capitalize on
36 Dollops
37 Pamphlets
39 Glamorous wrap
40 Doubtful answer
41 In a diplomatic way
45 Prickly weeds
49 Dairy-case buy
50 Hagen of "The Other"
51 Interview wear
52 Take a chance
53 Lawn cover?
54 Gymnasts' goals
55 Jade

previous answer

V	A	N	■	I	R	A	T	E	■	P	E	R
E	M	U	■	B	E	G	A	N	■	A	R	E
G	Y	M	■	E	D	E	N	■	A	L	A	S
■	■	B	E	A	U	S	■	A	X	■	■	■
K	S	■	M	M	C	■	A	M	E	B	A	S
A	T	E	■	S	T	A	B	I	L	I	Z	E
P	R	A	M	■	I	F	S	■	S	L	U	E
P	A	V	A	R	O	T	T	I	■	E	R	R
A	P	E	M	A	N	■	A	D	A	■	E	S
■	■	■	A	J	■	L	I	L	A	C	■	■
P	A	D	S	■	B	O	N	E	■	O	U	R
I	V	E	■	I	C	I	E	R	■	C	R	O
T	E	E	■	L	E	N	D	S	■	O	N	E

HOROSCOPE

ARIES | March 21-April 20
Surprising news comes by mail. Prepare for allergies to flare up. You might think it's too late for forgiveness.

TAURUS | April 21-May 21
A senior's safety measures should be updated. Expect a price change – buy now. Do not walk through dark places by yourself.

GEMINI | May 22-June 21
A dispute will lead the way to an agreement. Look into discovering how to prosper. Refuse to be a mediator on a proposal.

CANCER | June 22-July 22
A disgraced visitor has much to say. A man causes confusion to burst out. A moody dictator limits time spent in contemplation.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 23
Others will need a lesson in compassion. Whining about chores takes up too much energy. Someone fails to show up when needed.

VIRGO | Aug. 24-Sept. 22
Get your emotions under control. Arrogance causes feelings of inadequacy. Get down to basics with an impractical negotiator.

LIBRA | Sep. 23-Oct. 23
Provide sanity for an oblivious person. A friend has guilt about a crisis. Better news comes about finances.

SCORPIO | Oct. 24- Nov. 22
Frankness is the best approach in a love affair. Have a nap, if you get the chance. Dreadful dreams lead to a thorny dilemma.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 23- Dec. 21
Look before you leap in your love life. Someone opens your eyes to a paradigm shift. Opportunities will give you a new way of life.

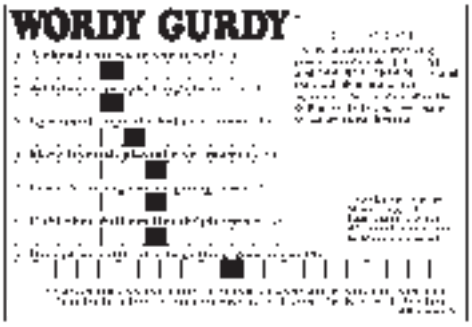
CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 20
A stressful ruling will create resentment. Worry about a job can be reduced by consultation. Being fond of someone will amaze you.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Exhaustion will result if you don't let up. Less is more in a relationship. Don't stubbornly insist on following orders.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Emotional difficulties will persist if someone else calls the shots. A sweet rascal spends money like crazy.

AVATAR VENUS

WORDY GURDY



	2			9		3		4
			2		1		7	6
	7	2			3		1	
			5		2			
	9		4			8	3	
9	6		8		7			
4		5		2			8	3

instructions »

The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

solve time »

Under 13 minutes	Genius
13-17 minutes	Scholar
17-21	Smart
21-25	Pretty good
More than 25	Keep practising

previous answer

3	6	7	1	4	2	5	9	8
5	4	9	7	3	8	2	1	6
2	8	1	5	6	9	4	7	3
8	3	6	4	2	1	7	5	9
4	9	2	3	5	7	8	6	1
7	1	5	8	9	6	3	2	4
1	7	3	6	8	5	9	4	2
9	5	8	2	1	4	6	3	7
6	2	4	9	7	3	1	8	5

Ottawa weather

Afternoon	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Partly cloudy. 25°	Rain. 11° 80%	Partly cloudy. 18°/ 5°	Partly cloudy. 19°/ 7°	Variable. 19°/ 7°

The Weather Network theweathernetwork.com

Temperature
Normals
High: 18.1°
Low: 5.9°

Records
High: 30°/1942
Low: -2.2°/1950

Sunrise: 5:33 a.m.
Sunset: 8:25 p.m.
Moonset: 2:59 a.m.
Moonrise: 3:14 p.m.

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